



POTTER VALLEY TRIBE



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Chairperson

Salvador Rosales

Secretary

Rosemary Rosales

Treasurer

Losario Rosales

Member-At-Large & Appointed Spokesperson

Norma Rosales

Ken Wiseman, Executive Director
Marin Life Protection Act Initiative
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

October 20, 2009

Dear Mr. Wiseman:

This letter is in regards to the Marine Life Protection Act and the possible loss of fishing, gathering, and seasonal camping rights for the Potter Valley Tribe and its members. We fully understand that our ocean and the marine life along the Mendocino County coastline need to be protected from pollution and overharvesting. As a means of protecting the rights of all Native American Tribal members in Mendocino County we strongly oppose the establishment of any marine life reserve along the Mendocino County coastline until we can assess its impacts on our Tribe. We would ask that the department confer with the Potter Valley Tribe before designating marine life reserves within Mendocino County.

If such a reserve is proposed along the Mendocino County coastline the Potter Valley Tribe as a Sovereign Nation requests specific exemptions within our ancestral lands (the entire coastline of Mendocino County) for dance, traditional food gathering, and religious purposes. We also would like your agency to consider working as partners with Mendocino County Tribes in managing the resources of the coastline of Mendocino County.

I would also like to request that a Potter Valley Tribal member or a member from a Mendocino County Tribe be placed on the Blue Ribbon Task Force to advise this Task Force with issues that concern Mendocino County Tribes.

Thank you,

Salvador Rosales
Tribal Chairman

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